



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**DECEMBER 7, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE  
**JURY CONVICTS THREE-TIME BURGLAR  
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was convicted by a federal jury today for being a felon in possession of two firearms and ammunition.

**Darrell D. Walker**, 36, of Kansas City, was found guilty by a federal trial jury of being a felon in possession of two firearms and ammunition.

Following the presentation of evidence in **Walker's** trial, Graves said, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City returned the guilty verdict to U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon, ending a trial that began on Dec. 6, 2004.

**Walker** was found guilty of two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm and one count of being a felon in possession of ammunition. The federal jury found **Walker** guilty of being in possession of a Hawes .22-caliber revolver on Jan. 14, 2002, a Colt .45-caliber handgun on Oct. 29, 2002, and two rounds of ammunition on Oct. 29, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Walker** has a 1996 criminal felony conviction for sale of a controlled substance and 1995, 1990, and 1989 criminal felony convictions for burglary. **Walker** is classified as an armed career criminal because he was found in possession of a firearm after having been convicted of three or more violent felonies or serious drug offenses, Graves said.

Law enforcement officers initially arrested **Walker** on Jan. 14, 2002, after he was observed in public yelling obscenities and pulling up his sweatshirt and placing his hand on a revolver, which was located in his pants. **Walker** was arrested a second time on Oct. 29, 2002, when law enforcement officers were preparing to conduct a residence check at 3724 Indiana, In Kansas City, attempting to locate him on an outstanding warrant. Officers observed **Walker**

leave the residence in a white 2000 Mercury Villager. Shortly after, the officers stopped the vehicle and placed **Walker** into custody. At that time, the officers conducted a routine search and discovered the handgun and ammunition.

**Walker** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 12, 2002, in Kansas City. That indictment was later replaced by a superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 3, 2003.

Under federal statutes, **Walker** may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

#### **Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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